

newsp. Aug 16, 1863

Mrs. J. R. Mowry  
Ann Arbor  
Michigan



Camp Park near Nicholasville Ky  
August 16<sup>th</sup> 1863

My Dear Wife Mattie

as I have seen letters commenced before now, I take my pen in hand to inform you I am well & hope you are enjoying the same heavenly blessing it is raining some & I think it will rain hard before long there is heavy Thunder & a considerable Lightning we need some rain as the Roads are getting considerable dusty. the road that runs by our camp is a macadamized road it is a splendid road & it beats all that an awful sight of teaming there is on it there are more private carriages than I have seen in any other place I have been in it makes the place seem a great deal more pleasant here to me on that account Burnside's head Quarters are on about four miles beyond here that makes a considerable difference with the Army Trains so much has to go up there I havnt seen Burnside since I have been back from Mississippi I would like to see him for I like his actions pretty well & most of the men do. We are encamped in a pleasant place good sod ground & a considerable many large Forest Trees. I think we will be apt to remain here for some time by the actions of things now there is but one fault & that is on account of water we have to go a good ways after it but after it is got it is pretty good it is splendid compared with what we got in Mississippi I heard bad news yesterday John Smith he came & told me Robert Downer was dead I

was in hopes I would see him again but he  
is gone poor fellow & a good fellow how does  
Sarah Ann feel & what is she going to do  
is she going to remain there on the Farm or  
going to her Fathers to live did Rob make any  
disposal of his Property. Sarah Ann will have  
her hands full three little Children to see to.  
Ed Ruthroff brought the News in camp he is  
in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mich Inf & his Brother Johnny is in  
this Regiment. What was the matter of Rob any  
thing more than his old disease. I am anxious  
to hear from you for I want to hear how Willie  
Benham is getting along I am in hopes I  
will get one to day but dont know whether there  
will any mail come or not My last Letter I got  
I believe at Cairo Ill I think there must be  
a quite a Mail some where for the last two  
days we only got 3 Letters for the Company at  
one Mail & four the other heavy dis what you  
think. I am in hopes I can get away to Louisville  
tomorrow but dont know certain as yet I drew  
up a request yesterday and took it to my  
col he approved it and sent them to Brigade  
head Quarters for approval & they havnt retur-  
ned I am in hopes they will come back all  
right for I want to go & get my Papers  
fixed out right & I can get some money  
& I am going to get some clothes such as a  
Blouse Coat Pants & vest & cap and I dont  
know but I will get me a pair of Boots so if  
we do march any right away & it is muddy I  
will be in Town. My Boots are to look to as good  
as ever but Marching so much in Mississippi and  
in the Sand & that being so very hot that the

Soles are cracked most in too on the bottom where the half soles stop on the bottom but I may get them fixed but dont know I think they ought to have their time as I have worn them since the day or two before we crossed to go to Fredericksburg & I have worn them most every day ever since I guess I will get a pair as I will be sure & get a good fit these fitted me but I might not be as lucky again I could get them cheaper from home than here. I wish I knew whether I was going to get my leave of absence approved or not so I could write you. I hardly know whether to send this by mail or not I think Alice will go home by tomorrow or next day & if he does I dont know but you would get this as quick as though I sent it by mail & I dont know as I can think of enough to write one to send both ways. Mrs W. S. Maynard was in camp this morning I didnt get an opportunity to speak with her as we were on Regimental inspection when she was here & not being very well acquainted with her didnt want to put myself ahead as there were several talking with her George Mayner is here I have had a little talk with him. Captain Grants wife was here this morning in Camp I didnt speak with her for the same reasons I didnt. Mrs Maynard not being much acquainted Col Smiths wife is down here & I believe the Major has sent for his a great time sending for wives the Officers get their wives boarded here close by at private honours I guess the Col that is Col Smith is going to try and get a chance to go to Mich with him his wife when she

Will. Love & kisses from the folks to my dear wife Hattie  
your thousand & 1000000  
I guess our rain is done here  
for the present it has rained quite a considerable  
amount & now the air is as fresh as you please  
I tell you a person can see a great difference  
between the air & heat here and in  
Mississippi there the air was so heavy and  
seemed to stifle a person almost and then  
the sun seemed to be as hot again as here  
when it is equally as clear here as down  
there it don't seem to be half as warm I tell  
you we up to the North needn't say anything  
about its being warm for I have marched  
down in old Mississippi when it fairly baked  
a fellow perhaps it has done me good baking  
my upper story a little. Hattie you wanted to  
know what I mean by slips there is no meaning  
about it only when my pen slips or I make  
a blot I would say slips as the boys playing  
marbles will say if a marble slips they will say slips  
now havnt I saved one Spaulk say yes for I  
have told you never mind Miss if you slap me  
I will P I will my den wont you be sorry then  
& I want tell you any more pretty stories I guess  
if it wasnt for my Muster papers I had full  
as live go to Cincinnati as to Louisville for  
I guess I could get clothing full as cheap in  
Cincinnati as in Louisville but what little I  
get will make but little difference where I get  
it. I am going to get me a cap as all of the  
Officers are and I have got to get me a hat or cap  
as mine is all worn up & a cap is a good deal  
cheaper. have you heard from Granville  
yet. I guess I will close the boys are all well  
Jimmy Samy Joe & all of the boys John is as